

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-13, 15-20 and 27-30 were pending before amendment. Claims 1, 2 and 27 are currently amended, and claims 31-54 are added. Therefore, claims 1-9, 11-13, 15-20, and 27-54 are now in the case. No new matter has been added. Claims 31-37 are supported, e.g., by Applicant's original claims. Support for claims 38 and 48 can be found at, for example, page 8, lines 14-16 and page 9, lines 4-8.

Claims 1 and 27 have been amended to recite that the sorbant includes an open cell foam or fibrous material. Support for this amendment is found at, for example, page 8, line 15 of the specification. Claim 2 has been amended to clarify its presentation.

Claims 1-9, 11, 12, 15-20 and 27-30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Watson (U.S. Patent No. 3,858,764).

As pointed out by the Examiner, Watson lists a foam sorbant in Table 7. Watson provides little information concerning the nature of this foam. In fact, it would appear that the only mention of foam in Watson is "10 g Rubber Foam" found in Table 7. Claims 1 and 27, as amended, require a sorbant that includes an open cell foam or fibrous material. Watson does not teach or suggest a sorbant that includes an open cell foam. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 27, and the claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for immediate allowance.

Claims 31-37 are also in condition for immediate allowance, since Watson does not teach or suggest a sorbant that includes a fibrous material.

New claim 38 features a personal care product that includes, within a pressurized container, a personal care formulation, a propellant and a sorbant that includes capillaries. The sorbant forms a gel with at least a portion of the propellant. Claim 48 features a method of manufacturing a personal care product including providing, within a container, a sorbant that includes capillaries. Watson does not teach or suggest a sorbant that includes capillaries. Thus, claims 38-54 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 13 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Watson in view of de LaForcade et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,464,111) and Villars (U.S. Patent No. 5,451,396).



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Claim 13 depends from claim 1 and thus is patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Neither of the secondary references supplies a teaching or suggestion of an open celled foam or fibrous material.

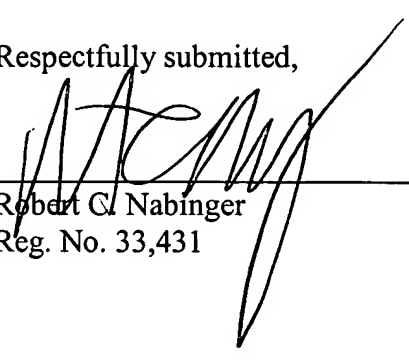
In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for immediate allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

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